SABIT STANDARDS IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM
May 17, 2003 - June 14, 2003

The SABIT Standards Program, managed jointly by the U.S. Department of Commerce and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), provides intensive training opportunities for standards and conformity assessment experts from Eurasia. The program offers in-depth training on effective and efficient practices of product and equipment standards and certification used in the United States as well as inspires confidence in U.S. products and services.

Scope and Mission of the Program

The Special American Business Internship Training (SABIT) Standards in Telecommunications Program is designed to provide16-18 mid-to-senior telecommunications specialists from Eurasia one month of intensive exposure to U.S. practices in standards development, product certification, and laboratory accreditation, as well as offer site visits and direct interaction with U.S. telecommunications equipment companies, service providers, and testing labs.

The delegates, screened and selected by the U.S. Department of Commerce and NIST, will represent both national and regional standards agencies and testing laboratories as well as national telecommunications agencies and private telecommunications companies throughout Eurasia. The delegates are valuable contacts for U.S. companies looking to do business in Eurasia and many represent gatekeeper agencies, key to getting new products into the evolving markets of the region.

Benefits of Participation

Participation in SABIT offers a unique opportunity for both U.S. companies and Eurasian delegates. These visits offer solid, practical experience for the Eurasian standards experts and give U.S. businesses an unparalleled opportunity to establish firsthand contacts key to working in the markets of Eurasia.

For companies that are not currently active in the region, participation in the program will enable them to learn about potential opportunties in Eurasia and establish valuable industry and government contacts.

SABIT is currently seeking U.S. hosts in Massachusetts, Georgia, and the Washington, DC area to provide training, site visits, and presentations for half- and full-day sessions.

Session Structure

This program will begin with a two-week session at NIST in the Washington, D.C. area, with government and industry association presentations and site visits, in addition to focused business panel discussions (May 19 - June 1). The group will then travel to Atlanta, Georgia to attend the 2003 SuperComm telecommunications conference and exhibition, followed by several days in the Boston area with targeted site visits to companies, laboratories, and other host organizations (June 2 - June 12).

Additional Networking Opportunities

In addition to SuperComm and the planned site visits, a roundtable is anticipated in the Washington area during the final week of the program. This event will provide an opportunity to learn about telecommunications certification and market issues in Eurasia directly from the delegates as well offer a unique chance to learn more about the region. It will also provide a forum for U.S. company representatives to network with the delegates to discuss their companies and services.

Cost of Participation

SABIT will cover the majority of program costs for all delegates, including round-trip airfare t the United States, all domestic U.S. transportation, housing, insurance, per diem for meals and incidentals, and interpreters to travel with the group. In turn, U.S. host organizations are asked to cover all costs of the training they provide.

For More Information

To learn about this session and the associated networking events, please contact SABIT Standards Program Coordinator Melissa Jordan. Also be sure to log onto our newly designed website to learn more about this SABIT Standards session and the SABIT Program!

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